

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Taiwan

DATE DISTR. 17 Aug 51

SUBJECT Health and Sanitation Data

NO. OF PAGES 3

PLACE ACQUIRED 25X1C

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE ACQUIRED

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

DATE OF

25X1X

City: Taipei, Formosa; Formosa, (Taiwan)

I. GENERAL

1. Population of city: 400,000

II. COMMUNITY HEALTH CONDITIONS

1. Annual birthrate: high
2. Annual deathrate: high
3. Infant mortality rate: high
4. Five leading causes of death and percentage of total deaths each represents per year:

(a) Tuberculosis	25%
(b) Malaria	25%
(c) Dysentery	20%
(d) Influenza, plague	10%
(e) Typhoid	20%
5. The following diseases are locally regarded as endemic listed in descending order of cases per year:

(a) Malaria
(b) Dysentery
(c) Typhoid

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83

25X1A

III. WATER

1. (a) Does the city have a public water supply system? Yes.
- (b) Describe the system: Government owns, controls, and operates it. Water comes from streams from mountains about 25 miles away from the city, Taipeh. The water is not very safe to drink. We have to boil it before drinking.
- (c) Is the public system adequate to furnish water to whole population? Not very adequate because of the increasing population. The pressure is too low.
- (d) What percent of the population actually uses the public supply? 80%
- (e) How is sanitary quality of water checked? Not very sanitary because of poor administration.
- (f) Is the water from the public supply safe to use without further treatment such as boiling? Needs boiling.
- (g) What water do you drink? Boiled water.
- (h) Are bottled waters used extensively? No.
- (i) What other sources of supply are in use in the city? Wells.

IV. FOOD

1. The Health Department exercises control over the following:

- (a) Slaughtering
- (b) Restaurants - Restaurants, outdoor stands, cafeteria style on the side street, not carefully supervised.

The Health Department does not exercise control over the following:

(a) Butchering Meats	(c) Shellfish
(b) Fish	(d) Markets

2. Milk

- (a) How is cow's milk distributed? Almost non-existent. There is, however, a private dairy with a few cows, but milk is not pasteurized and is expensive. Not many can afford it.
- (b) What percent of available milk is pasteurized? None.
- (c) Does any official agency control the sanitary quality of milk? No.

3. Disposal Systems

- (a) Has the city an operating sanitary sewerage system? Yes, but it is very poorly maintained.
- (b) What part of the whole population is served by it? Two thirds.
- (c) Where there is no such system what is the most common method used for disposal of human excreta? Carried away by human labour to use on field as fertilizers.
- (d) What is the ultimate disposal of sewage? To sea.
- (e) Are human excreta used for fertilizing land? Yes.
- (f) Are vegetables grown locally on such land? Yes.
- (g) Is there a drainage system adequate to carry surface runoff? Not too adequate.
- (h) There are storm sewers and open ditches.
- (i) Are there any places near the city where surface water collects and stands after heavy rain? Yes.
- (j) Is there a general collection of garbage? Yes How often? Irregular.
- (k) Is other refuse collected? Yes, irregularly.
- (l) What ultimate disposal is made of garbage? City dump and burned sometimes. Of other refuse? Yes
- (m) What method is used for disposal of the dead? Burial and cremation.

4. Pest Control

There is no organized method to control mosquitoes, flies, lice, rodents and fleas, or other pests. The city management is helpless on these problems. The whole city is infested with mosquitoes and flies, etc.

V. MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL FACILITIES

1. Number of hospitals: 4.
2. Total number of hospital beds: Approximately 2000.
3. Total number of charity beds: Not known
4. The following types of services are available: medical, surgical, dental, nursing, obstetrical.
5. Are common drugs easily available? Yes.
There are three government-owned and operated hospitals and one mission hospital. In addition to these there are many private practitioners who have a few beds for their private patients in their "home-made-hospital" or clinics.

VI. LOCAL HEALTH AND WELFARE ADMINISTRATION

1. There are active divisions of tuberculosis control, venereal disease, and maternity (infant), but no social services for follow-up of infectious diseases.
2. What Non-Government Health Organizations operate in the city or its environs?
None.
3. Are cases of communicable diseases reported? No, no definite effort is made by the government to check these diseases.
4. What immunization procedures are applied to children? Smallpox, typhoid, cholera.
5. What immunization procedures are applied to the general public? Patients voluntarily come to hospitals or health stations for immunization. No law to enforce it, although there is an effort to do it; at least they wrote it down on paper.

VII. CONCLUSIONS OF HEALTH AND SANITATION DATA

1. Personal opinion as to the general conditions listed below:

Health conditions	Poor
Available medical, dental and hospital care	Poor
Climatic effect on children, women and men	Poor
Sanitation	Very Poor
2. What special precautions must be taken in order to remain in good physical and mental health? Injection against typhoid, cholera, smallpox, etc. Taking pills frequently against malaria, and leave the rest to the mercy of nature.
3. Are there any hazards that would affect infants and children? Yes, there are plenty as listed above.

VIII. SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS

1. Education

- (a) Describe and evaluate briefly the locally available primary and high-school facilities. Indicate particularly at what levels and in what schools English is taught. Public schools everywhere, but overcrowded, poorly run on account of lack of funds. Taiwan University is the biggest and only one in the city.
- (b) Medical schools
 - (1) Curricula: Medical School of Taiwan University
 - a. Are special courses (either long or short) given for training in Public Health Work, to doctors, dentists, nurses, sanitary inspectors, and technicians? Yes.
 - (2) Average number of students. Approximately 200-300
 - (3) Quality of training. Fair
 - (4) Teaching facilities. Fair

2. Medical Research and development: Rockefeller Foundation malaria control and research work.

- (a) Available scientific manpower. Not known.
- (b) Teaching facilities. Not known.
- (c) Laboratory facilities. Yes, but fair.
- (d) What significant medical research is being conducted? None.

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